

REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1934!

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

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FIVE CENTS

The Real Conspiracy

An Editorial

The United States Department of Justice has charged, its curiously-timed indictment of sixteen leaders and members of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO, that there is a national conspiracy in existence, with Minneapolis its focal point.

The Department of Justice is correct. Such a conspiracy does indeed exist. But the Department of Justice leveled the wrong charge, against the wrong people. There is no "revolutionary conspiracy" involving Local 544-CIO aimed at "overthrowing the government." Such a fantastic "conspiracy" exists only in the minds of the Department of Justice, the FBI agents, and their inspirers.

The REAL conspiracy, which the people of Minneapolis and the nation have a right to know about, is the real and outrageous conspiracy of President Daniel J. Tobin and the industrial union form of organization known as the AFL Teamsters International, against the democratic right of the motor transport and allied workers of Minneapolis to select a union bargaining agent of their own choosing.

No member or leader of Local 544-CIO, no member of any working-class party, is involved in this conspiracy. The real conspirators are Tobin and his local quislings: President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the FBI, the Department of Justice and the Department of Immigration; Governor Harold Stassen; Mayor Marvin Kline of Minneapolis; and Minneapolis employers. This conspiracy is aimed solely at Local 544-CIO and the CIO. This conspiracy aims to deprive and deny the motor transport and allied workers of Minneapolis their democratic rights to select their own union.

Everyone knows that Daniel J. Tobin has never had love for the trade union principles and practices of Minneapolis General Drivers Union. His opposition goes back to 1934, when he opposed the Local 574 strikes that year, and the industrial union form of organization which 574 strove to achieve, in opposition to the bosses. He, and throughout the July-August strike of that year, Tobin came to the aid of the bosses by red-baiting strikers and denouncing their strike as "illegal" and "outlaw." In 1935, at the first opportunity, Tobin expelled the local from the International and sent in "organizers" to try to prevent the union from functioning. When it became evident that Tobin could not whip out the 574, he permitted himself to be convinced by the Minneapolis labor movement that Local 574, spearhead of unionism, should be readmitted into the International. The union was readmitted as Local 544.

In the following years Local 544 became the spearhead of a great organization drive among the motor transport drivers of the Middle West, helping to establish on conditions for 200,000 drivers. Tobin covertly opposed this drive, on several occasions ordering various area drivers' councils to disband. He was torn between his desire for an increased union membership and fear of the industrial union ideas of 544.

The socialist ideas of some of the members and leaders of 544 cut no ice at this time. At one stage, Tobin appointed Farrell Dobbs, secretary-treasurer of Local 544, as international organizer in charge of over-the-road organization. Tobin understood Dobbs' political convictions very clearly. But Tobin never set the Department of Justice and the FBI on Dobbs or the other 544 leaders. When Dobbs resigned from the Teamsters International in 1939, Tobin sought for hours to convince him he should stay with the union in the capacity of international organizer. At that time a larger union membership meant more to Tobin than did the progressive ideas of the 544 leadership.

There is one thing that Tobin hungers after more than per capita tax, and that is his reputation as a labor leader and his ambition to end his career in some high governmental post.

In May, 1941, Fortune magazine published an exposure of Tobin which constituted a grave threat to his political ambitions. The article pointed to the racketeering in Tobin's union. It also referred to the radicalism of the Minneapolis drivers.

Greatly embarrassed by the Fortune article, Tobin decided to move in a "statesmanlike" fashion—to kick "reds" out of the union, and to leave the racketeers untouched.

He promptly wrote an editorial in his personal maga-

zine, the Teamsters monthly journal, demanding that members of the Socialist Workers Party resign either from the union or the party. As a weapon against 544, he picked up and dignified the charges made against the union leadership by a group of disgruntled union elements calling themselves the "Committee of 99," who were carrying out the program of the employers inside the union movement. Tobin ordered a hearing to be held on the charges of radicalism against the 544 leadership, a radicalism which Tobin had been well aware of for seven years.

He Fights Our Union Principles

Let no one be fooled by Tobin's charge of radicalism. What he really opposes and hates about 544 are its UNION principles and practices—its advocacy of industrial unionism, its sympathy with the successful organizational efforts of the CIO as was reflected in the columns of the Northwest Organizer, its opposition at the 1940 Teamsters convention to granting Tobin additional dictatorial powers and an increase in his salary to thirty thousand a year.

Membership Rejects Tobin

He informed a 544 committee that he had decided to appoint a receiver over the union, and demanded that the 544 executive board invite him to send in a receiver with dictatorial powers. This ugly demand was presented by the union board to the membership, who rejected it overwhelmingly. Knowing Tobin, knowing well that he would appoint a receiver in spite of the wishes of the union membership, knowing he was determined to dismember the union, Local 544's membership voted to leave Tobin's union and join the CIO. This decision was reached at the regular monthly membership meeting of Local 544, held June 9, 1941.

Roosevelt's "All-Out" Aid to Tobin

Dan Tobin is not only president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, he is also a member of the National Committee of the Democratic Party and for eight years has been responsible for lining up the labor movement behind Roosevelt, and Roosevelt's policies, no matter how harmful they are to the future of the labor movement.

On June 13th, Tobin sent a telegram to President Roosevelt, complaining about the action of Local 544's membership in changing affiliation to the CIO. Stephen Early, secretary to the president, acting of course under Roosevelt's instructions, made a public statement to the effect that the President "condemned jurisdictional raids." Neither Roosevelt nor Early nor Tobin have ever thought to explain how a decision by the majority of Local 544's membership to reject Tobin's dictatorship and join the CIO constituted a "jurisdictional raid."

What behind-the-scenes negotiations went on between the White House and Tobin, one can only conjecture. But one need not conjecture on the very concrete aid President Roosevelt has given Tobin in an effort to enable the latter to regain control over the motor transport and allied workers of Minneapolis. The resources of the Department of Justice have been placed at the disposal of Dan Tobin, Roosevelt's labor statesman.

As Cecil Owens, publicity director of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, so well said at the 544-CIO mass meeting at the Lyceum theater: "It appears that Roosevelt has changed from All-Out Aid to England, to give All-Out Aid to Daniel J. Tobin."

Not even in the First World War was a union ever put through such a kangaroo procedure as Roosevelt has directed at 544-CIO, under the guise of stopping union "raids" and preventing "subversive conspiracies."

On June 15th, agents of the Department of Justice conducted a spectacular raid on the Minneapolis and St. Paul headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party, carting away literature which they, or any other individual, could have purchased or freely read at any time. The bosses and the Twin City newspapers understood that the raids were aimed at Local 544. The newspapers headlined the fact that the federal government had "moved against Local 544."

Acting Attorney General Francis Biddle made it plain enough in his statement of June 28th when he said: "The principal Socialist Workers Party leaders against whom prosecution is being brought are also leaders of Local 544-CIO in Minneapolis."

Instead of supporting Local 544-CIO in its demand for a democratic solution of the problem through labor board elections, a procedure in conformity with the Wagner Act, the Roosevelt administration has decided to aid Tobin by using the Department of Justice. The pretext used in an effort to conceal the fact they were moving against the CIO was that some of the 544 leaders were alleged to be members of the Socialist Workers Party.

The Socialist Workers Party was pictured by the Department of Justice as a secret organization aiming at overthrowing the government by violence. A special prosecutor was sent from Washington to Minneapolis to aid in preparing the case for the federal grand jury. On July 15th indictments were obtained against 29 persons, including 16 active members and leaders of Local 544-CIO.

Bail Higher for 544-CIO

The real game of the federal government is seen in the handling of bail bonds by the court for the defendants. Bail was originally set at \$5,000 for each of the defendants, none of whom in all likelihood ever had a fifth that much. Attorneys for the defendants requested the U. S. district attorney to reduce the bail bond. The latter phoned Washington. The bail for the sixteen indicted members of 544-CIO was scaled down to \$3,500. The bail for the others was reduced to \$2,500, which is \$1,000 less than the bail of the CIO members. The fact that among the latter group were national leaders of the So-

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Majority of Grocery Men Want 544-CIO, Elections

Tobin Organizers Held in Shooting Of Aitkin Farmer

Brennans Members of "Committee of 99," Sid Brennan is 544-AFL Secretary-Treasurer — George O'Brien is Trustee and Soderberg is Organizer for Tobin—All Were Appointed by Tobin's Receiver and Sanctioned by Teamsters Council—Violent Habits of Men Bound to Lead to Tragedy—Boss Papers Cover Up Close Tobin Connections of Organizers

That such a deplorable situation as that involving the shooting of a Hill City farmer last Sunday by a group of Tobin organizers should finally come to pass brought no surprise to the hundreds of Minneapolis motor transport workers who have been approached in recent weeks by the gun-toting hoodlums Tobin has hired in his fight against Local 544-CIO. "It was inevitable that sooner or later these bullies would seriously hurt someone," several drivers told union officials this week.

The shooting occurred Sunday on the farm of Walter Doree near Hill City, Minnesota. A coroner's jury sitting at Aitkin has sought to reconstruct the scene of the gunplay. It appears that Sunday a group of men came to the Doree farm. Among them were Robert Brennan, member of the "Committee of 99," and brother of Sid Brennan, 544-AFL Secretary-Treasurer; George O'Brien, trustee of Tobin's local union; Axel Soderberg, a Tobin organizer and member of the "Committee of 99;" Frank Bochniak. A dispute existed between Doree, a tenant farmer, and the Brennans over use of a truck alleged to be owned by the Brennans.

The coroner's jury, after hearing testimony of Doree, his family and neighbors, held that the farmer fired upon the Minneapolis men in self-defense, only after he had been fired upon during the altercation.

Doree, who lies near death in a nearby hospital, told Sheriff Ned Price that one of the four Minneapolis men reached into a companion's pocket, saying: "Give me that gun. He can't get all of us, and we're taking the truck."

Family Looked On

After at least two of the men shot at Doree with pistols, he blazed away with a rifle, killing Robert Brennan. The men shot at the farmer with pistols in the backyard of the Doree farm, in view of Doree's wife and eight children. One daughter, Louise, only a year old, was clinging pathetically to her daddy's leg when the farmer was shot by his assailants.

The Minneapolis men left, taking Robert Brennan with them. They proceeded to Aitkin, reported the shooting to the sheriff but said nothing about their attack on Doree, and then fled to Minneapolis. When Hill City authorities learned that Doree had been shot and lay near death, they wired Minneapolis police, who picked up O'Brien at his home. Axel Soderberg and Bochniak were found at the Brennan house.

Aitkin county authorities are (Continued on page 4)

CIO Dairy Workers Sign in Saginaw

The CIO United Dairy Workers Local Industrial Union 83 has signed an excellent agreement with the Saginaw Dairy company of Saginaw, Michigan. The pact calls for a closed shop, vacations with pay, seniority and steward set-up, and pay raises ranging from \$3 to \$5 weekly, plus increased commission rates.

Negotiations are under way between the union and the Parker Dairy and Valley City Creamery in Saginaw.

Local 544-CIO Again Proves It Represents Men at Wholesale Grocery Hearing—Assistant Attorney General Rules Men Can't Be Pulled Off Jobs by AFL—AFL Attorney Again Threatens Boycott if 544-CIO Wins Elections—Workers Testify Tobin Hoodlums Carry Guns, Threaten

Minneapolis motor transport and allied workers in yet another industry, the wholesale grocery section, demonstrated their overwhelming support for Local 544-CIO in hearings held July 16th and 21st before state labor conciliator Alfred Blair. As in all the other hearings held to date, 544-CIO swept the field, presenting indisputable evidence of the sentiments of the men, the thuggery of Tobin's hoodlums, and the workers' desire for a free and democratic election to settle the question.

A dozen workers came forward last Wednesday morning at the opening of the wholesale grocery hearing to testify that the men were CIO and that they demanded elections. All major grocery houses in the city were represented.

Though space forbids a detailed report on the testimony, a few of the highlights are here reported.

AFL Men Tote Guns
Harold Fisher, employed at Western Grocer, told how one of Tobin's goons came to the plant and waved a German Luger revolver before the workers, yelling that "This is what we're going to give the CIO."

Jack Gittens of C. Thomas stores came forward to testify that that very morning he had been pulled off the job by Ed Blixt, an AFL "organizer," who told Gittens: "You can't work here because you attended a CIO meeting."

Howard Dorholdt of Western Grocer told how Red O'Loughlin, one of Tobin's imports from Detroit, Michigan, had come to the plant and sought to force him to sign up with the AFL. "Do you call this democracy?" Dorholdt asked the Tobin men scornfully.

O'Loughlin went up to Dorholdt, shook his fist under Dorholdt's nose, and shouted: "What do you want? Democracy or this?"

O'Loughlin is about twice the size of Dorholdt. In this incident is shown again the contempt with which Tobin's agents regard the democratic right of a workman to belong to a union of his own choosing.

Another witness told of the baseball bats carried around in the cars of Tobin's hoodlums. So devastating was the testimony of these 544-CIO members that even the AFL attorney, Goldberg, appeared demoralized.

Can't Be Pulled Off Jobs
When Gittens told how Blixt had pulled him off the job for attending a CIO meeting, Blair and George Sjoselius, assistant attorney general, announced that all workers pulled off the job by the

AFL must be reinstated immediately, and that henceforth no worker could be removed from the job until a decision had been reached as to the proper union bargaining agent. Thus, one of the weapons of intimidation used by Tobin's agents against the union membership has been removed from their hands.

After 544-CIO had completed its case, it was as plain as the nose on one's face that the CIO has the men and that the men eagerly desire an election to settle the dispute.

Monday morning the wholesale grocery hearing was concluded, with the AFL attorney, Goldberg, presenting his case. Goldberg's story was unimpressive indeed.

One important fact shown was that, with all of Tobin's boasts and terrorization, Local 544-CIO has obtained more signatures voluntarily than have Tobin's agents with their threats.

In previous hearings, Goldberg has always maintained that what he counted on to support Tobin's claim to the Minneapolis membership was the dues payments to the AFL. Yet at Monday's hearings he could only show that a handful of the 450 workers in the industry had paid dues to the AFL. Of this small number, it was later shown that some had since signed the 544-CIO petition demanding a secret industry-wide election.

Goldberg could present not a single AFL witness to dispute the 544-CIO testimony as to the threats and intimidation used by Tobin's agents.

Old AFL Excuse
Goldberg wound up his case by presenting the strange argument that Tobin had received some sort of divine mandate to the bodies and souls of all the millions of motor transport drivers in the nation. If this argument were really valid, then of course the auto workers, the steel workers, the rubber workers, the aluminum workers, the packinghouse workers of America, would never have been organized. When the CIO was first formed, the craft-union fogies on the executive board of the American Federation of Labor used to argue as Goldberg argued Monday.

Goldberg ended by repeating his earlier threats that if an election were held and if 544-CIO won the election, that the American Federation of Labor would boycott all goods delivered by CIO trucks, and goods manufactured by CIO workers. What Goldberg was really trying to say was that, though the laws of the state of Minnesota and the United States guarantee to every worker the right to choose

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Grocery Men in Special Meeting This Friday

The executive board of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO has called a special meeting of all members of 544's Wholesale Grocery Section for this Friday, July 25th, 8 p. m. Reports will be made on the hearings before state labor conciliator Blair on the union's demand for a free and secret election, and on the union's program for the wholesale groceryman. It is of the utmost importance that all eligible workers attend this meeting.

Ten Reasons Why You Should Vote for Local 544-CIO

1. Local 544-CIO stands for higher wages to meet the rising cost of living. Tobin stands for "sacrifices" on the part of labor, but not on the part of the profiteers.
2. Local 544-CIO furnished the leadership that has raised the wages, shortened the hours and won job security for the drivers and warehousemen of this city.
3. Local 544-CIO stands for honest, democratic and militant unionism. Tobin stands for dictatorship, thuggery and horse-and-buggy craft unionism.
4. Local 544-CIO elects its officers in free and democratic elections by secret ballot. Tobin's receiver appoints officers for the AFL.
5. Local 544-CIO has the backing of the great progressive CIO industrial union movement, the dominant movement in America today.
6. Local 544-CIO has always insisted that the employers live up to the union agreements.
7. Local 544-CIO protects its members on the job, and settles their grievances.
8. Local 544-CIO fights all fronts. Tobin imitates them.
9. Local 544-CIO symbolizes the future of American unionism. Tobin and the AFL represent the dead and dying past.
10. Local 544-CIO is the union that Made Minneapolis a Union Town and means to Keep It That Way!

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We Made Minneapolis a Union Town - - - Let's KEEP IT That Way

Brewery Workers Union Lashes Dictator Tobin As Labor's Worst Raider

When President Dan Tobin of the AFL Teamsters ran to Roosevelt for protection against what he called "CIO raiding," Tobin's screams were greeted with jeers by the AFL International Brewery Workers Union. "We're glad Tobin brought that up," says the Brewery Workers Union in a front page editorial in the June 18th issue of their weekly paper.

If those familiar with historical facts were to speak, "They would come right out and say that it is organized labor which stands in need of protection — PROTECTION AGAINST THE RAIDS OF THE TEAMSTERS UNION — AND THEY WOULD ADD THAT DEMOCRACY IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT HAS DIMINISHED IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE GROWTH OF THE TEAMSTERS UNION," the Brewery Workers Union states.

Victims Are Many
"There are some national and international unions in the American Federation of Labor whose membership, or portions thereof, have not been coveted by President Tobin and the Teamsters Union. These unions, we believe, could be counted on your fingers. Every other union, with the exception of the powerful and dominant craft unions, and with the exception of some few others, has been made the object of a Teamsters Union raid at one time or another," continues the editorial.

"Look back through the American Federation of Labor records, turn to the Executive Council's reports and to the reports of the Adjustment and Grievance Committees at the various AFL conventions and they show that the Bakery Workers, the Railway Clerks, the Laundry Workers, the Engineers, the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, to name but a very few, have all been the victims of piracy at the hands of the Teamsters Union. All have lost members organized after many months and years of struggle and at no small expense, because when they had finally organized these workers, the Teamsters Union—which proclaimed its sovereignty over 'everything on wheels' but could not be bothered with such a petty detail as organizing the unorganized workers—promptly stepped in and asserted its 'rights.'"

"FOR YEARS THE GROWTH OF THE TEAMSTERS UNION COULD BE MEASURED SOLELY BY THE SUCCESS OF OTHER UNIONS IN ORGANIZING WORKERS IN THEIR INDUSTRIES. AND BY THE SUCCESS OF THE TEAMSTERS UNION IN TAKING THESE ORGANIZED WORKERS AWAY FROM THEM. IT WAS, IN TRUTH, 'RAIDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF GETTING MEMBERSHIP.'"

40 Years as Raider
"The records of the AFL will show," continues the editorial, that the Teamsters Union first started its craft-union raids on the Brewery Workers Industrial Union back at the start of the century.

"The Teamsters Union, led by President Tobin, made repeated attempts in the years that followed to take over the beer drivers, but met with no success, and finally in 1915, after three consecutive AFL conventions had affirmed and reaffirmed our jurisdiction, President Tobin himself signed an International Working Agreement with the Brewery Workers Union in which our jurisdiction was recognized and acknowledged for all time."

Tobin's Word Worthless
"From 1915 to 1933 the Brewery Workers Union enjoyed rare and unusual peace with the Teamsters Union, but in April, 1933 the Teamster attacks, or raids, started all over again and we have had no peace since."

Tobin, Hypocrite
"President Tobin based his appeal for Government intervention on behalf of his organization on the fact, or so he was quoted in the news, that 'other organizations were sending men out to take local unions away from the Teamsters and issue charters to them.'"

"WE'RE GLAD HE BROUGHT THAT UP!"
"A few years back, President Tobin himself sent a man out to a certain large city to 'take away' one of our local unions and charter it as a Teamsters Union local. The attempt was a miserable failure, but it created quite a disturbance at the time and is still responsible for certain unsavory & vile union conditions in that city."

Tobin's Goons
"There was no justification whatsoever for it, what is more, for the rank and file of our membership were against having any dealings with the Teamsters, but were unable to watch and guard against the underhanded maneuverings of one or two renegade local union officials who sought to

544 Fought Tobin's Raids Against Union

One of the many fundamental trade union issues upon which Local 544 always disputed with Tobin was his attitude towards the AFL International Brewery Workers Union.

This union, older than the American Federation of Labor, has been an industrial union from the start, with all workers in the industry coming under its jurisdiction.

Tobin, with his narrow craft-union greed, has always sought to claim the brewery drivers for his own. Local 544, with its industrial union outlook, always rejected Tobin's orders to raid the Brewery Workers Union.

Philip Murray III, CIO Meeting Postponed

The meeting of the national CIO executive council, scheduled to start in Washington July 16th, has been indefinitely postponed due to the sudden illness of President Philip Murray. Murray collapsed in Pittsburgh while on a family outing, and was ordered by his physician to a hospital for rest and observation.

"deliver" our local to President Tobin's organization, and to whom the Teamsters issued a charter. Armed with this charter, the renegade officials of this phony beer drivers local then tried to browbeat the employers into repudiating their signed union agreements with the Brewery Workers Union, and when this failed, resorted to boycotts, goon-squads, threats of a city-wide Teamsters strike and general insurrection against law and order.

"Unable to make any progress toward taking over our membership in that city by force and violence, the Teamsters Union then applied to the central labor body for intervention, requesting arbitration. An official of the central body was agreed upon by the Teamsters Union as impartial arbitrator, and it was also agreed beforehand, that both sides would abide by his decision. The arbitrator, after extensive hearings and after having thoroughly studied all the facts in the case, decided against the Teamsters Union."

"WHAT HAPPENED THEN?"
"President Tobin promptly repudiated the arbitrator's decision, sacrificing all trade union honor and integrity — the Executive Council of the AFL going along with him in the repudiation—and has since continually urged the phony local on in its attempts to wreck our local union. And yet he has the presumption to complain that 'other organizations are sending men out to take local unions away from the Teamsters and issue charters to them.'"

Scuffs at Tobin Pose
Doubting that Tobin is sincere in his appeal against "raids," the Brewery Workers state that "Tobin has played at the game too long. To expect him to change at this late date, and after his 'Might is Right' tactics have raised him to dizzy heights of authority and influence in the circles in which he moves, would be expecting too much."

"LET US DEVOUTLY HOPE THAT HIS APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF HIS ORGANIZATION AGAINST JURISDICTIONAL RAIDS WILL DEVELOP INTO A BOOMERANG WHICH WILL FOREVER SAFEGUARD LABOR AGAINST ITS MOST RUTHLESS RAIDER!"

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

544-CIO Grievance Committee Meets Tuesday, Friday

Attention of all motor transport and allied workers is called to the fact that the regular meetings of the Grievance and Seniority Committees of Local 544-CIO are being held in the union hall at 1325 Second Street North.

The union Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 p. m. The union Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. If you have grievances or questions on seniority to take up, the place to discuss them is before your union committees.

CIO Motor Transport Union Gets Off to Flying Start Through New Texas Charter

With the chartering by the CIO of the new Motor Transport Workers Local Industrial Union in Houston, the industrial union movement for motor transport drivers and allied workers has gotten off to a flying start in Texas.

The new charter has been issued to ninety-three motor transport workers of the Safety Convey company, according to information just received by Frank Barnhart from Maurice J. Dineen, CIO regional director in Texas.

"Along with this, there is a possibility of getting 300 members of the English Transfer Lines. This company transports mixed freight, etc., and it is very likely that practically all the motor transport workers in and around Dallas will soon be lined up with the CIO," Dineen writes.

Austin CIO Defends Itself Against Tobin's Hoodlums

The CIO union movement in Austin, Minnesota, last week gave a telling illustration of the defensive weapons available to the CIO if Tobin continues his reactionary policy of trying to boycott trucks driven by CIO members. The following story is re-printed from the Austin Unionist of July 18th:

"A squad of Tobin thugs visited Austin with threats against union drivers who recently voted to switch to the CIO. On Tuesday, July 15th, Jack Bray, formerly president of the Austin Drivers Local, with two tin-eared huskies arrived in Austin, making the rounds of firms employing drivers. Koughs Transfer, coal and lumber yards and the Gamble Robinson firm were also visited. Also the general drivers headquarters was visited and a lot of time was spent shaking fists under the nose of local officials and making threats with every shake."

"From reliable sources came the report that on Tuesday night, fourteen of these 'gentlemen' were making the rounds of all public places looking for local leaders. Monday morning AFL men stopped an Austin truck at Mankato, put an AFL driver on the truck and drove the truck back to Austin, forcing the employer to pay the driver's wages. That was the second time for such an occasion involving a local driver."

Tobin Stymied
"In retaliation the local CIO drivers, recently affiliated with the CIO, tied up freight pulled into Austin by AFL drivers. The result has been a flood of strong-arm men of Daniel Tobin's kind into Austin."

"Austin drivers feel they are still in America and have the right to belong to the union of their own choosing and insist they will not be intimidated by gangsters or strongarm men of any type."

"All indications are that CIO will carry on its drive to get truck drivers and that CIO workers are all going out to support that drive and add another 500,000 workers to the CIO movement."

CIO Charges Oil Shortage Is Artificial
All this hysterical talk of a gasoline shortage is being artificially stimulated by Rockefeller's Standard Oil interests to strengthen their already powerful monopoly position, it was charged this week by O. A. Knight, president of the CIO International Oil Workers Union.

Under cover of an alleged shortage of tankers available for transporting crude oil from Texas ports on the Gulf of Mexico to the huge Jersey refineries, Knight charged that the Standard Oil company has these purposes in mind:

Construction of two pipe lines to transport refined gasoline from Texas to New York and to intermediate points in Tennessee, West Virginia, Alabama and Georgia, where Standard Oil hopes to build up its market, and the piping of refined gasoline, rather than crude oil, through the new lines, thus putting the organized, high-wage refineries in New Jersey out of business and transferring the work to the low-wage districts of Texas.

Knight pointed out that the Jersey refineries soon will need extensive modernization and the company would prefer to invest the required money in new plants in Texas where the wage scale is seven cents per hour less.

The tanker shortage can be traced directly to the transfer of American ships to British registry, Knight said, and added that these former American ships, now being operated by Standard and Royal Dutch Shell, are hauling large amounts of petroleum from the East Indies oil fields to Japan. Considerable amounts of petroleum are being shipped to Japan from California, Knight charged.

Reassignment of these ships, and the release of some 10,000 idle railroad tank cars in Chicago and other railroad centers, would end the "crisis," Knight asserted.

The companies claim that the cars are being held in reserve for some future peak period.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.
These adverse factors didn't stop the loyal steel workers' howl. They were determined to

The Real Conspiracy

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cialist Workers Party which is accused of the alleged revolutionary plot against the government makes it glaringly obvious that the whole setup is a vicious plot against the CIO.

Persecution of Skoglund

The willingness of the Department of Justice to serve Tobin's ends is shown even more clearly in the persecution of Carl Skoglund, who came to America from Sweden in 1911. Carl is a former president and active organizer of 544. He is not only indicted on the charge of being a member of the Socialist Workers Party, but he has been arrested and held for deportation by the Department of Immigration (a section of the Department of Justice), and held at the exorbitant and unheard of bail of \$25,000. Like thousands of other Scandinavians, Skoglund never took time out to become a citizen. Several years ago he married an American citizen and last year filed his petition for naturalization. For months his petition has been held in abeyance.

Then, in the midst of the fight between Tobin and the CIO, a warrant to show cause why he should be deported to Sweden was dropped in Skoglund's lap, and he was imprisoned. The warrant had been issued in Washington on July 9th. It was not served until nine days later, two days after the federal indictments against the 29. Local immigration authorities acknowledge that the size of the huge \$25,000 bond was fixed, not locally, but in Washington.

These actions by the Department of Justice are enough to convince any unprejudiced person that the Roosevelt administration is acting in a shameful manner to use its powers for its own partisan ends. It is apparently willing to go to any lengths to defeat the democratic rights of the Minneapolis workers and force them back in Dan Tobin's antiquated craft-union set-up.

Tobin Uses Boss Weapons

While the Roosevelt administration works one side of the street against Local 544-CIO, Dan Tobin has been busy working the other side.

NEVER IN THE HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZED LABOR MOVEMENT HAS A MAN PURPORTING TO BE A LEADER OF UNION MEN DESCENDED TO SUCH FOUL DEPTHS AND THE USE OF SUCH BOSS WEAPONS AGAINST WORKERS AS HAS DANIEL J. TOBIN IN HIS DESPERATE FIGHT AGAINST 544.

Immediately after the union membership voted June 9th to join the CIO, Tobin sent a battery of lawyers to Minneapolis. On June 17th they induced a district court judge to issue a sweeping order to Local 544 to surrender its union headquarters, its books and its property, to the receiver designated by Dan Tobin. Without a hearing, Local 544 was ousted by the court from the union headquarters which it had established and later invited the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council to share.

Tobin has launched a suit in the boss courts, a fink suit, to deprive the 544 membership of its property. Tobin has moved through the Hennepin county grand jury to secure indictments for "embezzlement" against the leaders of 544. Embezzlement indeed! From whom? From Tobin? HE HAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST LEGAL OR MORAL RIGHT TO THE PROPERTY OF 544-CIO. The very funds which Kelly Postal and Miles Dunne are charged with "embezzling" are the subject of the fink suit brought by Tobin's dictator-receiver, Raw Deal Neal.

Tobin has dispatched to Minneapolis the muck of the AFL Teamsters International, and ordered them to use fist and club and gun to beat down the motor transport drivers and warehousemen of Minneapolis, and deprive them of their democratic rights.

Tobin has moved through the boss courts to deprive Local 544 of the weekly newspaper it founded seven years ago and has published and edited since yet.

Tobin has moved through the FBI to secure yet another indictment, in Iowa, against Kelly Postal, the nature of which is not yet clear.

Tobin has brought the pressure of the American Federation of Labor to bear in Minneapolis, to clean out those militant workers who fight for the right of 544's membership to determine their choice of unions in democratic fashion.

Tobin has ordered his agents and his lawyers here to fight tooth and nail the demand of 544-CIO for a labor board election in the industry to determine the union bargaining agent.

The daily newspapers have given us but glimpses of the conferences held between Tobin and the Minneapolis employers, of the conferences held between Tobin and Governor Stassen, of the favors performed by Mayor Kline and the Minneapolis police force for Tobin and his local agents.

Fellow workers of Minneapolis—
Put on your thinking caps. Think back over the years, of the record of Local 544 and its leadership. Weigh the achievements of this union, of the higher wages and shorter hours and better working conditions and job security it has been able to win for the workers of Minneapolis from the employers.

Think back to 1934, and of how bitterly the employ-

ers and the police and Tobin fought this union. Think the time the employers told you that our union's demand for 42½¢ an hour was the same as "Communism."

Just as labor's enemies used red-baiting to conceal their hatred for unionism and union conditions today Tobin and his political allies are using red-baiting to conceal their hatred for progressive industrial unionism. Back in 1934 they said our union wasn't interested in making gains for the membership, that it was only interested in revolution. Every year since then, at every cal period, labor's enemies have red-baited this union's leadership. Red-baiting is a weapon of the law used against our union, against every effective and legal union, against every effort of the workers to organize for themselves and do something for themselves, against the Farmer-Labor Party, against any person or organization that appears to threaten the power and privilege of the employing class.

Don't permit yourselves to be fooled or frightened by the hypocritical lies of those who oppose this union. Don't be entrapped by the conspiracy manufactured by Dan Tobin and the boss politicians against this union. Realize, as you did in 1934, that no power on earth can defeat an honest band of workingmen who, as one for unionism, for the right to life and a living for the toilers and their families.

All the efforts of our enemies will fail in this as they failed in 1934 and the succeeding years. Day that passes, every election hearing, every 544 meeting, is used by the motor transport drivers of city to show their unshakable faith in this union leadership and its just cause. Every day brings proof of added support from incorruptible unions and throughout the nation, from the American Civil Liberties Union, from those who take seriously the Bill of Rights in the Constitution, and the way they are being vindicated in the persecution of 544-CIO by the federal government.

The fight of Local 544-CIO for democratic industrial unionism can and will be won. The vast gains of union in Minneapolis can be retained and expanded. The American labor movement can preserve its independence and can defeat the machinations of the government against the CIO and all those who stand up for the rights of

2 Billions in Arms Contracts Go to Firms of \$1-Year Men

The dollar-a-year men planted by America's corporations in Washington are sure earning their The People's Lobby, liberal organization, has just pleted a survey showing that over TWO BILLION DOLLARS IN WAR CONTRACTS have gone to companies which have controlling officers in the government making the contracts.

The firms which got the gravy comprise the largest in the nation; officers of these firms are now in Washington, occupying high and controlling places in the arms set-up. Their agents within the government, and their war contracts, include the following:

American Brass Corporation—James Madden and James Kemp, both in OPM—\$6,857,101.
Bethlehem Steel—George Hock-er, OPM—\$71,449,442.
Chrysler Corporation—Edmund S. Chapman, head of Light Ordnance Unit of OPM—\$34,179,529.
Colorado Fuel and Iron Corp.—George M. Kirk, OPM, \$4,587,200.
Cruible Steel—Frank E. Spencer, OPM, \$14,184,446.
General Electric—F. B. Cliffe, Carl M. Lynde, John L. Pratt, OPM, \$106,754,743.
General Motors Corporation—William Knudsen, OPM, and many others, \$324,403,069.

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Place your Federal Housing and Auto Finance with a bank controlled by Labor and Union Members.
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BERT ACKERMAN, Prop'r, MEMBER NO. 544

Glueck's BEER
ENJOY

Thursday, July 24, 1941

Skoglund Held for Bond of \$25,000

Roosevelt's Hand Seen in Arrest of Skoglund, Setting of Outrageous Bail—Deportation Would Mean Certain Death at Hand of Nazis—Scandinavian Organizations Concerned at Persecution

In what is plainly another case of the Roosevelt administration coming to the aid of Dictator Dan Tobin in his struggle against the Minneapolis motor transport and allied workers, federal authorities last Friday arrested Carl Skoglund, organizer and former president of Local 544. The arrest was made on a warrant "to show cause why he should not be deported."

He is being held in Hennepin County jail on the outrageously high bail of \$25,000. Skoglund came to America from Sweden early in this century. He came to Minneapolis, where friends and relatives resided, and his life has been that of hundreds of thousands of Scandinavian immigrants. He has worked as lumberjack, miner, railroad and truck driver. He was one of the founders of the International General Drivers Union Local 574 back in 1933, and has been a loyal officer and member of the union ever since, known and respected by thousands of workers and friends.

Attorneys for Local 544-CIO have taken steps to gain Brother Skoglund's release. Gilbert Carlson and William K. Thomas, 544-CIO attorneys, have written the department of Immigration, urging it to release Skoglund upon his own recognizance or in the alternative to set his bond in the sum of \$1,500. The attorneys point out that "in view of his long residence in this country and his unblemished record, we believe that he and as now fixed by your department is wholly unreasonable and greatly excessive. . . . To require prohibitive bail on this charge actually amounts to a guilty finding without affording him a hearing."

Union attorneys advised the immigration authorities that efforts will be made to reduce the size of the bond before the local district court.

The local Swedish counsel, Mr. J. H. Olson, and various Swedish organizations have interested themselves in Brother Skoglund's case. Several Swedish-American citizens familiar with immigration procedure say that inasmuch as Mr. Skoglund came to America before the war, he should be treated as a native-born citizen.

Kelly Postal, secretary-treasurer of Local 544-CIO, reported to the federal building Saturday and was immediately freed on bond provided by the national CIO. Kelly was asked to report because federal authorities learned another indictment, contents unknown, had been returned against him in Iowa. Monday the remaining indicted members and officers of 544-CIO proceeded to the federal building with union attorneys and were freed on bond put up by the CIO. Bond for members of 544-CIO had been reduced from \$5,000 to \$3,500.

Others indicted for membership in the Socialist Workers Party, including national leaders of the party, had their bail reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,500, and are now out on bond or on their personal recognizance.

Arraignment was set for August 11th, but defense attorneys have asked for a delay in order to prepare motions to quash the proceedings. Trial is tentatively set for sometime next fall.

Handicapped by Labor Law
Nothing is expected to come out of the negotiations for many months. Negotiations will be carried on under the involved Railway Labor Law, which permits the employers to drag out negotiations indefinitely. The Chicago negotiations only represent the first step. From there, it will presumably go to the National Mediation Board. When mediation fails, the case might go to arbitration. At this point, if the union threatened a strike, the President of the U. S. appoints a committee to investigate.

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Majority of Grocery Workers Support CIO, Want Election

(Continued from page 1)
his collective bargaining agent, the will of Daniel J. Tobin and his hoodlums is more important than the law.

Little Fat Boy Testifies
An amusing interlude in the hearing was the appearance of Harold Seavey on the stand for the AFL. The person under discussion told his name and address and started expounding the glories of Mr. Tobin's organization when he was cut short by Mr. Sjoselius on the grounds that his testimony appeared to have no bearing on the matter under discussion.

At the conclusion of the hearing Mr. Blair announced he would immediately consider the testimony and the petition of Local 544-CIO for an election.

Blair announced that next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday hearings will continue in an effort to wind up the more important industries, including the Wheeler Barnes case, cement block and the Pittsburgh Plate Glass situation.

Grocerymen Meet Friday
A full report on the wholesale grocery hearing will be given at a special meeting of the 544-CIO wholesale Grocery Section to be held this Friday, July 25th, 8 p. m., at the union headquarters, 1328 Second Street North.

544-CIO Proves Case
In all the hearings to date, Local

544-CIO has been able to back up its demand for secret industry-wide elections under government supervision. The union has brought in CIO-544 pledge cards signed by the workers involved. It has presented petitions for elections signed by the men. It has established clearly that Tobin's hoodlums have used force and intimidation against the drivers in an effort to sign them up in Tobin's union. Workers have come forward voluntarily from every industry to testify to the truth of 544-CIO's assertions.

Local 544-CIO has shown its confidence in the men by staking all its claims and its existence on a democratic election. What could be a more simple, more honest, solution? Tobin and his agents have claimed that THEY have the majority of men in the industry. IF they have the slightest faith in their claim, why do they squirm around so and seek to dodge the election? Their action is the very best proof that their claims are empty, that they themselves know they haven't the support of the union membership.

Let's have the elections! The workers involved, the employers and the public, all are entitled to know for sure which union really represents the workers involved. Only through elections can the representation question be settled.

R. R. Unions Open Lengthy Negotiations Next Week
Beginning next week negotiations will start in Chicago on the demands of the nation's railroad unions for an estimated wage increase of \$600,000,000 annually.

Two demands will be considered. The five train service unions, with a membership of 350,000 men, demand a 30 per cent increase in basic rates of pay, or sufficient to provide a minimum increase of \$1.80 daily for switch tenders and locomotive hostlers.

The fourteen "non-operating" unions, whose members number 800,000, demand increases of 30 to 34 cents hourly, with a minimum hourly wage of 70 cents. A two weeks' vacation with pay is also being asked.

George R. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, heads the Railway Labor Executives association, through which the unions will press their demands.

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UCWOC Goes Ahead In Nation

The CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee continues to forge ahead throughout the nation with its campaign to organize building construction workers, motor transport and allied workers, building service workers, etc. News of UCWOC progress is carried in the July 15th issue of the United Construction Workers News.

Building service employees at Yale university in New Haven, Conn., have formed the first formal union organization at Yale, under the UCWOC banner. Some 2,100 university employees are eligible to join.

About \$18,000 in wage increases have been won for building service employees in the Bronx by the UCWOC.

The UCWOC has swamped the AFL in a labor board election held at the Fairmont Box company plant in Fairmont, West Virginia, the vote being 88 against 1.

A wage agreement covering one hundred employees of the Dicolite company in Los Angeles has been signed by UCWOC Local 69.

Employees of the Kane Manufacturing company in Kane, Pa., are now covered by a UCWOC agreement.

Government Terror Cited By Union
"U. S. Government employees are being confronted with a virtual reign of terror in which Gestapo methods are being used by high government officials," the CIO United Federal Workers charged Sunday in a letter sent to affiliated unions, signed by secretary-treasurer Eleanor Nelson.

Miss Nelson cited as a typical case that of Mrs. Helen Miller, leader of a United Federal Workers local in Washington, who was notified last Friday by Secretary Perkins that she was suspended pending a hearing on charges she is a "communist."

"Prominent trade-union officials and members of various organizations are being given extensive grillings behind locked doors and with no witnesses present, by department officials and by the Civil Service Commission, FBI agents are questioning landladies, maids, and personal friends of Federal workers," Miss Nelson wrote.

"Government workers, on the basis of the work of these civil service investigators, department officials and the FBI, are being dismissed with no charges placed against them other than vague allegations that they are inimical to national defense, are subversive or are undesirable employees of the Federal Government."

"In the War and Navy Departments, mass suspensions and dismissals are taking place in Gestapo fashion, with armed guards or marines with fixed bayonets going through the yards and arsenals, tapping employees on the shoulder, marching them out through the most public passageways, so that all employees may see, stripping them of their badges and dismissing them with no reason being given for their discharge."

Union Leaders Fired
Twenty-three workers, including ten active unionists, were conducted out of a Philadelphia naval yard by marines with fixed bayonets; in Bremerton, Wash., the president of the local union in the navy yard was similarly suspended after nineteen years of government service, and in the navy yard at Mare Island, Calif., a large number of active union members were rounded up while on their jobs by armed guards and discharged," the United Federal Workers relate.

Revive the Spirit of 1934

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Thoughts While Reading The Minnesota Teamster

Holy Joe Casey is really remis in his journalistic duties to his readers. Each issue he simply overlooks reporting on a matter of some importance to Tobin's interests, namely, the hearings before the state labor conciliator on 544-CIO's petition for a free and democratic election throughout the industry.

Maybe Casey just can't find room in his rag to describe the hearings—or maybe he just doesn't know how to explain to his readers that 544-CIO shows it has the men and that the men want elections.

Holy Joe and Tobin are so intensely democratic that they won't stand for democratic elections—nowhere, at no time.

Another juicy item that Holy Joe's oversight forces us to report: Neal's General Drivers Union had a fine general membership meeting July 14th. All of 29 members attended, not counting Tobin's imports. Local 544-CIO had many times that number at its meeting, Holy Joe.

The big story in the last Minnesota Teamster was the gloat over the fact Holy Joe had run to the courts to steal the Northwest Organizer from the union that founded it. But by that time 544-CIO was already publishing its new paper, the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER.

By the way, that's an imaginative account by seavey of the negotiations over the sale of the Northwest Organizer to its originators. But that ain't the way I heard it.

The little fat boy says, "It takes me a long time to get mad but after reading that paper and seeing just what they did to us, I have been getting madder every minute."

Such mock anger is unbecoming

the pump in this warm weather. Walk slow, seavey, and drink lots of water.

The Teamsters Council should be mighty, mighty proud of the type of unionist Raw Deal Neal picked to head his union—after the Hill City affair. Well, Neal can always hold another "election." It doesn't cost anything and takes only a moment.

Holy Joe comes from San Francisco where the drivers only read about seniority but don't enjoy it. And this flim-flam artist has the gall to criticize the contracts signed by Local 544.

Here's a riddle for you, Holy Joe. How come that Local 544 has ALWAYS published its contracts proudly in the Northwest Organizer, for all workers to read? How come that unions throughout the nation look to 544's contracts as model union documents? And how come YOU don't dare publish YOUR contracts, even for the workers affected to read.

For three issues now the Minnesota Teamster has told its readers that the Dunes are making "a last desperate effort" to hang on. After a few more months, Casey's "public relation experts" will have to think up a new phrase—that is, if they are still so far from home.

The story of "Old Mother" Eberl going to the cupboard and finding it bare is enough to wring tears from a stone or a Democratic politician. "We will end up with a better union than we ever had before," Slim stoutly maintains. Of course, Eberl has his own standards of unionism.

Just for fun, we'd like Happy Holstein to tell his idea of what "subversive" means.

During the past several months many national "leaders" have been crying buckets of crocodile tears over the rising cost of living. Yet despite all these "exposés" nothing concrete is being done by the federal government to stop the rising trend. In fact, most of the graphs and charts published are false to the core.

Housewives don't need charts and graphs to tell that the cost of feeding the family has risen during the last two years, by leaps and bounds. In fact, all a housewife has to do to prove to herself that she hasn't suddenly become careless with the family pocket-book is to compare prices she pays today with those she paid a month ago—or if she wants a real shock, this year's prices with last.

Prices Up 13%
According to Price Control Administrator, Leon Henderson, prices for wholesale goods have risen 13% in the past 22 months. He says that while this is bad it isn't as bad as it was during the same period for 1916-17 when prices rose 20%.

It is interesting to compare the quotations from these different divisions of the government who are now concerning themselves as to where the American dollar is going.

Vice-President Wallace admitted, on July 1 that:

"Prices of all kinds have gone up faster in recent months than ever before in history . . . if this rise continues wages will not buy what they would. Farmers will be dissatisfied and everyone except the speculators will be troubled."

Wallace suggests that instead of buying commodity goods—of which food is the largest single item purchased by workers—the peepul buy "defense bonds."

Henderson admits in his story, published in the United States News for July 18, that prices have risen drastically on such items as farm products, textiles, furniture and foods. He also states that there has been a far smaller increase on manufacturing raw materials such as metals, leather, chemicals and paper. In fact, it seems that the prices on steel and iron have actually gone down during the past 22 months.

Price Charts Misleading
Even the New York Herald Tribune, reactionary to the core, admits that most publicity on rising prices is misleading, sometimes downright false. Says the Tribune:

"The commodity price indexes do not tell a true story—they never do in a rising trend. According to the most widely accepted of all price series—the wholesale price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics—commodities are up about 17% since the start of the war. The real advance has been

greater . . . such indexes do not reflect the hundred and one little factors which in the aggregate, make considerable difference in the effective cost to the consumer."

The New York Times for July 6 says:

"A number of commodity groups have actually risen more in the current two years than in the 1914-16 period, notably farm products, foods, textiles, and house-furnishings goods . . . the rise in farm products amounted to 31.3 per cent compared to only 9.2 twenty-five years ago, and in foods 22.6 per cent against 17.4 . . ."

Now that might sound like good news for the farmers. But actually the farmer has gotten little or no increase in the prices paid him for his products. Some critics say that the increase in food prices has resulted from the government's "parity payments." Let's look into this question to see who got those "parity payments."

The largest single check paid to a "farmer" for parity was made out by the Prudential Life Ins. Co. It amounted to \$133,191. The second largest check, for \$96,332 was paid to the Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. The Federal Land Bank of Omaha, Nebr., got \$92,693 as its share. Eleven other insurance companies took their cut in amounts in excess of \$35,000.

Officials explained that the huge amounts paid to these "farmers" resulted from "investments and foreclosures" made by the large corporations after the last World War.

Farmers Don't Gain
Small farmers, real honest to goodness dirt farmers, who got more than \$200 were in a 10% minority. More than 2 million of the 5 million participating farmers got \$20 or less for their plowing under program.

The bulk of the rise in food cost can be laid squarely on the shoulders of food speculators who for several years have been laying in stock for just such a time. At the present moment, practically all of the food canning industry in California is under indictment by the Federal government for price fixing practices.

Not only is the farmer not at fault for the rising cost of living, but he is actually as much a victim as is his city working brother. Montgomery and Ward's new catalogue announces price increases on 70% of its articles. Not only

Even Boss Admits "War Profits Outrageous"

Even some of the manufacturers engaged in "defense" work concede that the profits garnered are "outrageous." James E. Barnes, Washington representative of the Todd Shipbuilding corporation, admitted this when questioned by a senate committee last week about reports that his corporation made 40 percent profit on its deals with the government.

"We offered to give some of the profits back," declared Barnes, "but our lawyers advised that we couldn't, because we would have to pay income tax on it anyway."

Barnes further testified that the profits of this war compare very "unfavorably" with those of World War I. "In the World War," he said, "if it hadn't been for taxes, we couldn't have handled our profits with a steam shovel."

But Barnes need not feel too badly about the present lack of profits compared to the first World War. Already slated for defense purposes are \$69,588,000,000, of which \$27,318,000,000 is now under contract. This should make pretty good pickings for our patriotic business leaders, since appropriations far exceed those by the United States during the First World War, and we're not even in it yet—officially.

Not brought out at this hearing was the story of how the shipbuilding firms of the last war raked the government by selling its wooden ships that sank as soon as they got into the water.

The legal imposition of work gives too much trouble, requires too much violence, and makes too much noise. Hunger, on the contrary, is not only a pressure that is peaceful, silent and incessant, but as it is the most natural motive for work and industry, it also provokes the most powerful efforts.—REV. TOWNSHEND.

DITTO FOR BOSSES
No doubt the last of the dinosaurs thought that he was muddling along quite nicely.—H. G. WELLS.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP IT That Way.
are new higher prices in effect, but the catalogue announces that, without notice, even these prices can be jumped, orders either refused outright or held up for more money.

Big Business, failing in its attempt to put the blame for such items as women's coats and dresses, on the backs of the farmers, places it on the shoulders of the workers, charging that "increased costs of production, due to increased wages," are responsible.

Leon Henderson, Price Control Administrator, was forced to explode that myth, however, when he stated, "Most of the recent wage increases in the basic industries could be paid out of the savings of industry due to lowered unit costs when operating at a sustained high level of capacity."

It becomes increasingly clear that the federal government not only can't but doesn't want to control prices. Commodity prices will continue to go up and up, just as they did in the last war, with the workers' dollars thus becoming cheaper and cheaper, the while big business gets richer and richer.

So long as there are profits in war, there will be war.

ORGANIZER WANT ADS
(If you are a subscriber, your ad will be published free of charge. Mail or phone the Northwest Organizer, 1328 Second Street North.

WANTED TO RENT—5 or 6 room house, \$20 to \$30 per month, Northeast Minneapolis. GR. 4019.

Important
To Delinquent 544 Members and to The Unorganized

Having completed the move from the AFL into the CIO, the Minneapolis Local 544, CIO, wishes to start off with a clean slate.

The union executive board therefore has moved to accept for reinstatement into Local 544, CIO, all members who have become delinquent in dues under the old set-up. Reinstatement can be effected by the payment of the current month's dues of \$2.00.

Drivers and allied workers not hitherto members of Local 544 may also join Local 544, CIO, simply by paying the current month's dues of \$2.00.

Until further notice this decision will remain in effect.

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Business Manager DANIEL BURKE Editor MILES B. DUNN

Raw Deal Neal, Labor Statesman

The boys were talking things over in the front room at 257 Plymouth avenue. "Of course, the real trouble with the Dunnes," drawled Holy Joe, cocking his expensive cigar towards the ceiling, "is that they aren't labor statesmen. They haven't got the slightest instincts for labor statesmanship."

"Now take Dan," continued Casey, "THERE'S a labor statesman for you."

His eyes turned misty, and for a long minute he became lost in admiration of Mr. Tobin's many virtues.

"Yes sir, old Dan knows labor statesmanship," Holy Joe said. "Just look at what he's been able to do for us here in the past few weeks. He gets the President himself to issue a public statement against 544 and the CIO. He gets Biddle to cook up this 'subversive conspiracy' indictment. He gets the immigration authorities to pick up Skoglund and hold him for twenty-five thousand. Why he's even got the Republican governor of Minnesota and the county grand jury to work for him."

All were silent for a moment. Holy Joe resumed his monologue.

"And why is the old man able to get these favors? Because he knows how to go along," said Casey emphatically. "He supports the war. He speaks out against strikes. He's a member of the national committee of the Democratic Party. He doesn't stand for any of this nonsense about labor parties and imperialism and the rising cost of living and war profits. Yes sir, old Dan Tobin knows how to get along all right. He's made HIS pile. He's got his connections."

A gleam had come into the dull eyes of Raw Deal Neal. He was no longer listening to Holy Joe. He was thinking of how it was high time he was developing the statesmanship side of the Neal personality. After all, HE too was no small shakes at this game. Hadn't he got along well with the Pendergast machine back in old Kansas City? Hadn't Tom Pendergast taken care of Neal and the boys when they got in little scrapes? Wasn't Neal a good Democrat, just like Pendergast and Casey and Tobin and Roosevelt? Why, it was just like Dan had told him, there were no limits to where a smart fellow could get if he just played along and used his head.

"I've only been here a few weeks," thought Neal to himself, "and I haven't done so bad for myself. I've already made a few nice little connections. It's time I publicly demonstrated my interest in the civic affairs of the community."

The bull session gradually broke up. In a little while Raw Deal Neal, budding labor statesman, was alone with his ambitious thoughts.

The next day he took the first opportunity to hie himself down to the city hall to advise Mayor Kline on the choice of a new police chief to take the place left vacant by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's friend who had come down with a convenient case of sleeping sickness.

And what's wrong with that? After all, Raw Deal has been in Minneapolis for thirty days. A smart man like Raw Deal can quickly size up a situation, estimate the qualifications of the various candidates for the head of the police department, and reach a decision.

What's that? You say that a union leader has no business advising an anti-labor mayor? Ah, my friend, you see—you have no instincts for labor statesmanship.

Why Union Defense Guards?

Today as in 1937 there appears to be a new wave of employer-inspired anti-union violence sweeping the country. Scores of labor papers have recently recorded incidents where violence and terrorism have been used with impunity against union men.

The current issue of Labor, weekly organ of the standard railroad labor organizations, prominently reports several outbreaks of illegal violence against unionists.

"In Macon, Georgia, sheriff's deputies and police staged a series of raids on headquarters of local AFL unions in an attempt to smash an organizing drive. Disregarding laws that guarantee workers the right to organize, the 'bluecoats' and deputies arrested nearly 30 unionists, threw them into jail and released them only after they had posted heavy bonds of \$1,000 to \$15,000. Most of the men were hauled off on fake charges of 'vagrancy and loitering.' Among these was J. T. Price, vice president of the Georgia State Federation of Labor. . . . Another official seized was S. J. Pleasant, business agent of the Hod Carriers and Building Laborers Union. Because his union found jobs for members, he was accused of 'operating an employment agency without a license' and held on \$15,000 bail. However, soon after his arrest, the police department to its dismay discovered the law under which Pleasant was 'nabbed' had been repealed by the legislature in 1937. Prosecuting officers met that embarrassment by announcing they would manufacture another charge against the union agent."

The same newspaper records that "Another scene of brutality was Washington, Mo. There an army of vigilantes, made up of local business men and other townsmen, broke into the headquarters of the United Shoe Workers, smashed furniture, seized union records, beat up union organizers and then rode them out of town."

Turning to the current issue of the CIO News, we learn that "Charges of terror through employment of thugs against union organizers were made this week against the Phillips Packing Co., by an organizer for the CIO United Cannery Workers. Bob Himmaugh, the organizer, said that he and his wife were told to leave the city under threats of physical violence on June 21. Two days later, when he came back to town alone, a company thug, whom Himmaugh identified as Curtis Thomas, warned him that he 'had better leave the Eastern Shore, or else.' . . ."

Himmaugh was again threatened several days later when he was ordered to stop his car by two armed company watchmen and the business agent of the Dorchester Workers Union, a company union. After cursing him and threatening to beat him up, Himmaugh was permitted to go on his way. When the union organizer parked his car

"All-Out Aid to Tobin!"



last week, three company thugs ran into it with a truck and informed him that 'this is a warning.'

"APPEALS FOR PROTECTION TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE AND THE COUNTY SHERIFF HAVE FALLEN ON DEAF EARS," HIMMAUGH SAID. Two other CIO organizers were threatened with violence last year here."

Here, within one week, are reported three cases of illegal violence against unions and union officials. Public authorities either look the other way while these acts are performed, or actually join in the violent attacks upon the union.

For the enlightened union movement, there can be only one answer to such boss-inspired vigilantism—the creation of union defense guards, organized by the union to defend the legal rights of the union to maintain a headquarters, to conduct a picket line, to send out organizers and to carry on the legitimate business of the union.

It was the failure of the workers of Italy and Germany to guard their unions against the illegal attacks of the boss-financed fascist gangsters that permitted such bloody-handed dictators as Mussolini and Hitler to come to power in Europe. The defense of democracy begins at home, against the American imitators of Hitlerism.

Helping the "Farmers"

Though the Roosevelt administration's unemployed and labor programs have faded away amidst a line of army bayonets and a mass of starving ex-WPA workers, it is interesting to observe that the federal farm program is still doing great things for the farmers of this nation.

And when we say farmers, we mean corporations. Just listen to the "farmers" who received the largest benefit payments last week from the Agriculture Department for complying with the 1939 crop control programs.

At the head of the list is the old straw-sucking farmer, the Prudential Insurance company of America, who nabbed \$133,191. Second was the overalled Metropolitan Life Insurance company of New York, with a mere \$96,232. Others who benefited handsomely are the Union Central Life Insurance company, \$76,007; the Mutual Benefit Insurance Company, \$75,836; the John Hancock Life Insurance company of Boston, \$88,512; the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York, \$65,784; the Aetna Life Insurance company of Hartford, \$59,367; the Travelers Insurance company of Hartford, \$65,511; the Bankers Life company of Des Moines, \$42,003, etc.

You have to go way down the list before you find any honest-to-God farmers receiving aid. At the bottom of the list, 1,425,931 farmers received an average of \$20 or less.

The Roosevelt farm program helped the "farmers" listed above, plus 43,454 persons and corporations receiving \$1,000 or more in payments authorized under the soil conservation and price-adjustment programs for the 1939 crop year. But the rank-and-file farmer got what the little boy shot at.

Don'ts and Does for Union Drivers

DON'T pay dues to Tobin's goons.
DON'T wear Tobin's fink button.
DON'T attend Tobin's meetings.
DON'T sign Tobin's application cards.
DON'T attend Raw Deal Neal's grievance board meetings.
DON'T let the goon squads force you from the job.
DON'T let the boss tell you that you have to wear Tobin's button or join Tobin's union.

Both the National Wagner Act and the State Labor Law guarantee to you that "Employees shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join or assist labor organizations to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing and to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection." Both acts declare it an unfair labor practice for employers or boss representatives to intimidate, restrain or coerce employees in the exercise of their rights.

SIGN Local 544-CIO's application cards for the elections.
SUPPORT Local 544-CIO's demand for free and democratic elections.
SUPPORT the democratically-elected leadership of Local 544-CIO.

STAND BY the union and the union leadership that have stood by you for seven years.
WE MADE MINNEAPOLIS A UNION TOWN!
WE WILL KEEP IT THAT WAY!

Tobin Men Held in Shooting

(Continued from page 1)

confering regarding charges to be brought against O'Brien, Soderberg and Bochniak. The charges will depend on whether Doree survives the attack.

Tragedy No Surprise

For weeks Tobin's agents have been roving the streets of Minneapolis, heavily armed, threatening and intimidating drivers and warehousemen to seek their membership in the AFL outfit. Many workers have testified to the guns, knives, baseball bats and other weapons carried by Tobin's "organizers." Far from receiving the critical attention of the police, workers have said that often a caravan of AFL squad cars would roll up to plants escorted by police squad cars.

Having growing accustomed to working their violent will on defenseless workers in Minneapolis, and no doubt visualizing themselves as similar to the heroes of the "thriller" movie serials, it is hardly accidental that sooner or later some group of Tobin organizers would become involved in a tragic affair.

Were Neal Appointees

The Brennans, O'Brien and Soderberg were all appointed officers and organizers of Tobin's union by T. T. ("Raw Deal") Neal, Tobin's receiver. Their appointments were approved by the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council, which, together with Daniel Tobin, bears responsibility for their actions.

The boss-minded Minneapolis daily press, which has leaned over backward to favor Tobin throughout this dispute, again demonstrated its bias in this incident by carefully deleting all references in its stories to the fact that officers and organizers of Tobin's union were involved in the shooting affair.

Had any member or officer of Local 544-CIO been involved in a shooting affair against a farmer, the Minneapolis boss press would have headlined that fact for many days and unloaded all its mud guns against the union and its leadership.

CIO Auto Workers Convention Set

Three of the largest CIO affiliates will hold conventions during the next two weeks. The United Automobile Workers will meet in Buffalo, N. Y., starting August 4, while the United Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers will meet in Joplin, Mo., on the same date.

July 28, the West Virginia State Industrial Union Council meets at Bluefield.

High on the agenda of each convention will be consideration of means to cope with the war plans of the bosses, and the governmental drive against militant unions.

Revive the Spirit of 1934!

On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

Once again the blast of coal dust has snuffed out the lives of workers. At Acmar, Alabama, the death toll in an explosion in one wing of the Acmar Coal Company has mounted to eleven. The dead miners, nine of them Negroes, two white, were trapped more than a mile below the surface of the earth, under tons of debris, which rescue workers must tunnel through to recover their bodies. The mine belongs to the Alabama Fuel and Iron Company, and is one of the largest in the vicinity, employing 400 workers in two shifts.

For several years there has been lying in the Senate files, gathering dust, a bill which would make mandatory federal inspection of mines, and the use of safety equipment for keeping down the dust which causes fatal explosions. Since that bill was first introduced, and then shuffled off to the files to be forgotten by everyone except its author, several hundred men have met their death by dust explosions.

When dust is kept at a minimum by proper equipment, explosions cannot occur. But that equipment costs money—and the lives of the coal miners are cheap.

I recently read a novel, written as a novelized biography of one of the leaders of the first miners' union ever organized in this country—the forerunner of the United Mine Workers. In this book the author, who was himself a miner, described a coal dust explosion in which many of his friends were killed. He was saved, only because as a very young boy in England, he had gone through a similar experience and had learned what not to do. His description of the death of these men was so graphic that I felt myself choking, gasping, dying with them.

This is a problem with which the United Mine Workers have been struggling for many years. It is not a purely localized, nor industrialized problem. It took the wrath and the ire of the entire organized labor movement to clean up the packing house industry, to force the installation of safety devices in factories, and to bring about every other reform now enjoyed by the American workers as a whole.

Why then this apparent indifference about the terrific death toll among the miners? Every time there is an inconspicuous item in the press about another disaster in the mine fields must be left up to only the miners to mourn and to fight? It seems to me that, among other things, this could be called a "national emergency" of our own.

The Defense Mediation Board recommended, on July 10, a four point program for the settlement of the dispute between the CIO Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee and the Federal Labor Union (AFL) at four Harvester Company plants at Chicago, Rock Falls and Richmond, Ind. The proposed program included—

1. That a run-off election between the two unions be held by the NLRB in two weeks, at one Chicago plant and at the Rock Falls plant.
2. That the company enter into negotiations with the FEWOC at its tractor plant in Chicago.
3. That the company recognize the bargaining agency as certified by the NLRB. (The CIO has a contract at Richmond.)
4. That the report of a special board investigation be made available for both parties.

The government moved swiftly in New York harbor last week to end a tie-up of four vessels bound for the Red Sea, and struck by their crews in a demand for additional war risk bonuses. Under the terms of the temporary agreement, committees from the ship owners and the Sailors Union of the Pacific will meet with the Maritime Commission and the Department of Labor in Washington late this month. Should these conferences fail to result in agreement, an impartial arbitrator will be appointed, his decisions to be binding on all parties.

The demands of the sailors

Aluminum Trust Creates Shortage

Aluminum Company of America, Owned by Mellon, responsible for Shortage of Metal—Production Also Slowing Down in Some Industries Because of Aluminum Scarcity—Collection of Housewives' Pots and Pans Will Only Be Drop in Bucket to Needs of Nation

This week is proclaimed as "National Aluminum Week," and the Minneapolis mayor has urged that housewives dig deep into their aluminum supplies in interests of national defense.

There is a story behind this alleged "shortage" which fairly makes your hair stand on end. For downright reality, and evasion of the

Cleveland Auto Workers Greet 544-CIO

The following message of greeting was received this week by Local 544-CIO, from Local 217, United Auto Workers, Cleveland, Ohio:

"Congratulations from Local 217, United Auto Workers, for your swing to the CIO. Best wishes for continued success."

ROGER O'CONNELL, Recording Sec.

Prices At Sears Up 6 Per Cent

The New Fall and Winter catalog of Sears Roebuck, mailed out July 14th, shows prices averaging

"between 6 and 7 per cent above those of the 1940 year-end book," the N. Y. Times reported. A company statement said that "Prices are still substantially under what they would have been if its goods had been purchased during the last few weeks."

Sears price advances correspond roughly with those in the Montgomery Ward catalog. Last week's ORGANIZER reported that Ward's had made price advances on 70 per cent of their items.

Sears' tire prices are up, as are textile prices. Men's shoes show an advance of up to 25c a pair.

A hedge clause in the catalog states that "Prices are so low that, should there be any increase in our costs . . . we reserve the right to add any increases, from the time that they occur, to the prices shown in this book."

The company anticipates that new sales taxes will be limited to "automobile accessories, candy, clocks, watches, light bulbs, furs, jewelry, mechanical refrigerators, musical instruments, phonographs and records, photographic apparatus, playing cards, radio sets and parts, sporting goods, tires and tubes, toilet preparations, trunks, suit cases and other luggage."

The saddest words of tongue or pen: "We just sold Junior's buggy, when—"

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP IT THAT WAY.

include an increase in the bonus for duty in the war zone from \$60 to \$250 per month, and for an additional \$50 for each African port of call.

Last week the Emergency Defense Training Committee of the American Society of Tool Engineers met in Detroit. Out of that meeting came a report of an actual labor shortage among skilled workers. Based on sectional reports from representatives of the affected communities, there is said to exist, or threaten, actual labor shortages in Cincinnati, Columbus, Indianapolis, Syracuse, N. Y. and Worcester.

The report also indicated that defense training schools run by the government and private corporations had "materially improved" the situation during April.

UNION MEETING SCHEDULE Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

| | |
|--|---|
| July 1, 1941—Sausage, Petroleum | July 24, 1941—Transfer, Warehouse and Wholesale Dept. |
| July 2, 1941—Greenhouse and Independent Truck Owners | July 25, 1941—Cold Storage and Produce |
| July 7, 1941—Package Delivery and Department Store | July 28—Spring Water |
| July 8, 1941—Lumber | Seniority Committee meets and Tuesday at 7 p. m. |
| July 9, 1941—Market and Wholesale Liquor | Grievance Committee meets and Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. unless otherwise indicated. |
| July 11, 1941—Wholesale Grocery | ICE DRIVERS |
| July 14, 1941—General Membership | 2nd Monday, July 14th, 1941, 8th Laborers |
| July 17, 1941—Text and Amine, Newspaper, 30 A. M. Ways and Means, I.T.O. | WAREHOUSEMEN |
| July 18, 1941—Stewards | General Membership, Second Tuesday, 8th Monday, Executive Board, Every Monday |
| July 21, 1941—Furniture, Coal, Paper and Printing | |
| July 22, 1941—Building Material | |